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USACE Turns Over 132 KV Nasiriyah –Shatra Over-head Transmission line

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[Arabic Version](#)

AN NASIRIYAH, Iraq-- Modernizing electrical distribution systems and reducing electrical outages is one of the main goals of the reconstruction mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq.

According to Michael Fellenz, Gulf Region South district project engineer, the USACE has recently completed and turned over a new power transmission project to the Iraqi Ministry of Electricity in Thi Qar Province.

"The 132 kilovolt overhead power line was built in the vicinity of an existing line between the Nasiriyah Power Plant and the Ash Shatra substation," he said. "The transmission line project provides relief to an existing overloaded distribution system in a more efficient and safe manner."

Fellenz said that projects of this kind would lower the incidence of power outages and help modernize the electrical power system, since electrical service has been improving in Iraq.

"The main reason for the lack of electricity production in Iraq is that the older equipment has been destroyed over time and by sabotage," said Tommy Nason, project engineer with Adder Area Office. "This project will lower the load rates on the old overload feeders and will effectively modernize the electricity transmission and increase local area jobs."



An Iraqi worker makes an electrical connection to the \$14.8 million overhead transmission line project. The 132 kilovolt project will lower the load rates on the old overload feeders and will effectively modernize the electricity transmission. (USACE photo)

Nason explained that the \$14.8 million electrical feeder will ease the overloaded condition on the existing power line and will supply power to the Nasiriyah Water Treatment Planet and several local neighborhoods.

"The contractor's responsibility was to ensure that the equipment and system warranties were valid during the construction and commissioning stages of the projects, and were transferred to the Iraqi Minister of Electricity on project completion," Nason said. "The contractor had sole responsibility to liaise with the ME in pur-

suance of any additional information and permits.”

Fellenz said that engineering services, which were provided throughout the contract duration, included all design, supply, construction and commissioning activities for the project. “Design functions included the preparation and submission for review by the (Iraqi) government of all design calculations, construction drawings, test programs and methodologies, and as blueprints,” he said.

“The construction functions included activities such as preparation and submission for review by the government of vendor data, vendor profiles, catalogs, and production of all equipment including all required type and routine tests, factory acceptance tests, as well as supplying all equipment to site to enable completion of the line as defined in the scope of work,” Nason said.



A transmission tower, one of many, built by Iraqi workers to carry electrical overhead feeders to convey electricity to the Nasiriyah Water Treat Plant and many neighborhoods in Ash Shatra District, north of An Nasiriyah. (USACE photo)

Note: Mohammed Aliwi is a media relations officer with the Gulf Region South District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq. For more information, contact John Connor, public affairs officer at (540) 542-1528 or email requests to CEGRD.PAO@tac01.usace.army.mil. For more information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, visit www.grd.usace.army.mil.